

PATENT APPLICATION ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 72934

INITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) MASUDA et al.

10/061,772 Serial No.:

February 1, 2002 Filing Date:

OPTICAL FIBER AMPLIFIER Title:

AND OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

USING THE SAME

Group

Art Unit: 3662

Examiner: Mark Hellner Conf. No.: 2209

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

Kenneth H. Samples

Registration No. 25.747 Attorney for Applicant(s)

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and §1.98 in connection with the above-identified application. Also enclosed herewith is PTO/SB/08A Substitute for Form PTO-1449 and copies of the references cited thereon.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.

Publication Date

EP 0 858 976 A2

8/19/98

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner accept and consider the above documents and make them of record in the above-captioned application. The reference in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in an Office Action dated October 30, 2003 by the European Patent Office in the counterpart application EP 02 25 0699.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(g-h), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be a representation that a search has been made or an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b).

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

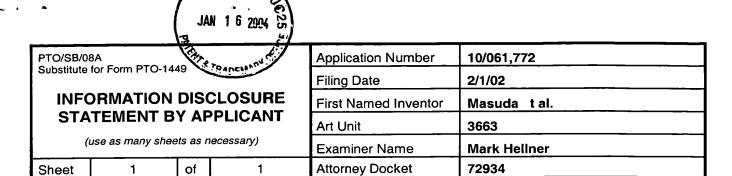
Date: 1//3/04

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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Te			
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵							
		EP 0 858 976 A2	08/19/1998	Nippon Tele. & Tele.					
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²				
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.